

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 JUSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3059

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CUSTOMS HONOLULU

CINCPAC HONOLULU

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USIA PASS IEA

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, MPOL, MILL, SNAR, TH

SUBJ: THAI PRESS REPORT THAI MOVIE STARS SEARCHED IN NUDE BY
U.S. CUSTOMS OFFICIALS IN SEARCH FOR DRUGS

1. SEPTEMBER 7 EDITION OF THAI DAILY NEWS PAGE ONE, TWO
COLUMN HEADLINE READ QUOTE U.S. MAKES THAI MOVIE STARS COM-
PLETELY STRIP NAKED WHEN SEARCHING THEM FOR HEROIN UNQUOTE.
SIMILAR REPORT ALSO PUBLISHED IN HIGHLY CIRCULARIZED THAI RATH
AND CHINESE SIANG PUANG CHON.

2. STORY REPORTED BY DAILY NEWS SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN U.S.
IS THAT ALL THAI MALE AND FEMALE, ESPECIALLY THOSE CARRYING
THAI PASSPORTS, ARE SUBJECTED BY U.S. CUSTOMS HONOLULU TO NUDE
SEARCH FOR DRUGS. ARTICLE STATES AIR SIAM MANAGER IN HONOLULU,
ANDREW ILK (SIC), SAID HARSH MEASURES ARE TAKEN BECAUSE U.S.
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OFFICIALS SAY THAIS ARE WORST OFFENDERS OF HEROIN SMUGGLING.

THE WRITER REITERATES THREE TIMES IN ARTICLE THAT ALLEGED SEARCH IN THE NUDE TOOK PLACE, SAVING FOR THE GRAND FINALE THAT EVEN A GROUP OF THAI MOVIE STARS WERE REQUIRED TO REMOVE ALL CLOTHING WHILE SEARCHED BY AMERICAN OFFICIALS.

3. THE WRITER DOES, HOWEVER, POINT TO MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES THAT THAIS ARE ALLEGED TO BE GREATEST OFFENDERS AND CITES A ONE MILLION DOLLAR HEROIN HAUL CONCEALED IN BUDDHA IMAGE DISCOVERED AT HONOLULU IMMIGRATION SEPTEMBER 3.

4. IN LIGHT OF RECENT THAI PRESS ARTICLES CRITICAL OF OUR PROCESSING THAIS SEEKING U.S. VISAS HERE, FURTHER PRESS PLAY ON DAILY NEWS STORY IS ANTICIPATED. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE FACTUAL CLARIFICATION OF THIS SEARCH PROCEDURE. IF REPORT BEARS CREDENCE, REQUEST TO KNOW IF REPORTED SEARCHING IS GENERALIZED OR AN ISOLATED INCIDENT AND IF ONLY THAI ARE AFFECTED.

BURKE

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Message Attributes

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